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WOLVERINE ORIGINS

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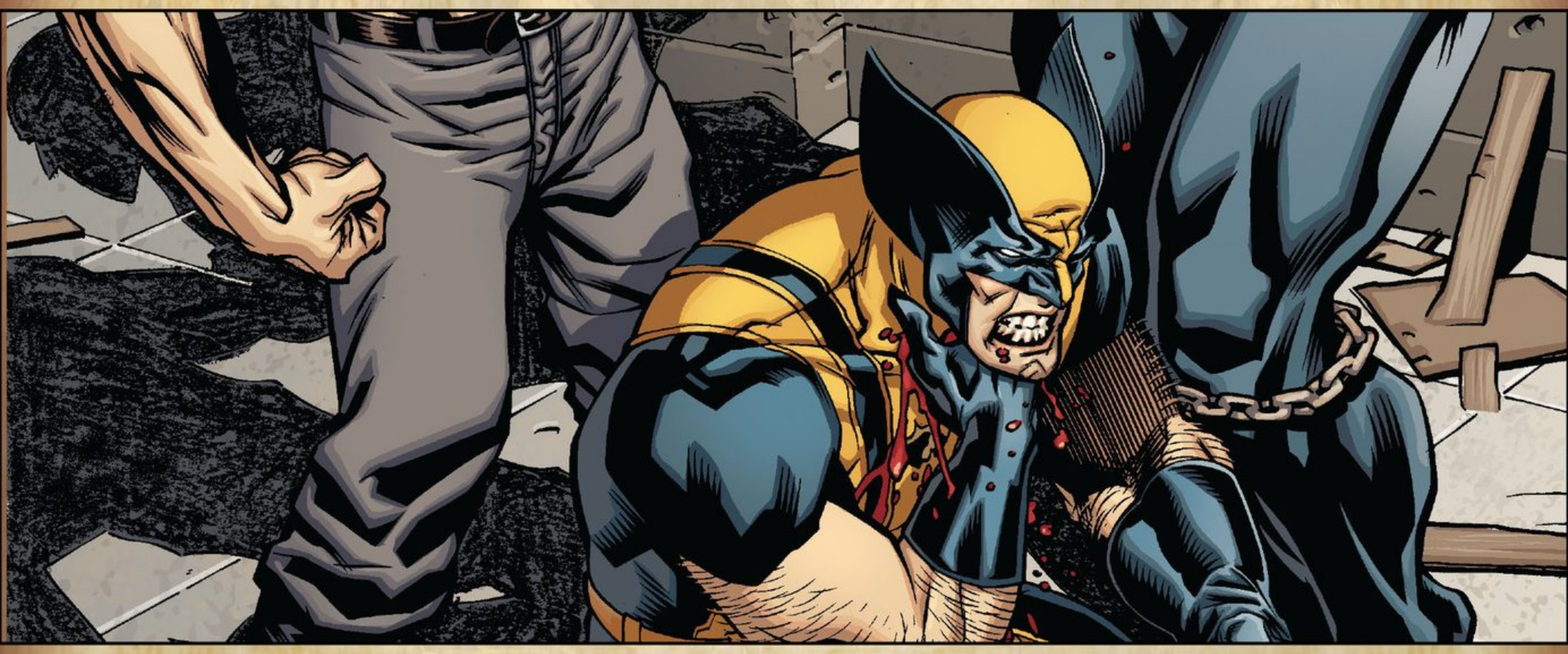
WOLVERINE
ORIGINS

The mutant Wolverine has spent a century fighting those who would manipulate him for his unique powers—razor-sharp claws, heightened senses, and a healing factor capable of miracles. After repeated brainwashing, torture, and reprogramming, Wolverine's past was as much a mystery to him as to anyone. With those long-lost memories returned to him, Wolverine has set out on a mission to punish the conspirators who have wronged him.



Wolverine has finally found his long-lost son, Daken. Just like his father, Daken is vicious, ruthless and virtually unstoppable. Until very recently, Daken wrongfully blamed Logan for the death of his birth-mother, but thanks to Logan's efforts this is no longer the case. Daken's misunderstanding of those past events is directly due to the influence of a dark and mysterious figure known only as Romulus and now—with their memories returned to them—Logan and Daken have set out on a quest for revenge.

On the way they encounter Cyber, a villain from Logan's past, who wants Romulus dead as much as they do. He offers to join forces with them and share valuable information regarding Romulus's whereabouts. But Logan has another plan. He and Daken capture Cyber in hopes of torturing the information out of him. But just before they can... Logan's throat is cut—by Daken!

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HE'S AWAKE! HE'S AWAKE!

HN--?

KLAK!

KLIK!

KLAK!

KLIK!

KLAK!

KLAK!

KLAK!

KLIK!

THEY'RE JUST...

KIDS...

WHY ARE YOU...*DOING* THIS?

YOU SHOULD BE OUT PLAYIN'... HAVIN' *FUN.*

THIS *IS* FUN.

BIG MAN SAY YOU STAY HERE UNTIL HE COMES BACK.

BIG MAN TELL YA WHEN HE'S COMIN' BACK?

NO.

BUT HE SAY IF YOU TRY TO LEAVE--IF YOU TRY ANYTHING...

...WE BLOW YOU AWAY.

HE SAY IF WE DO A GOOD JOB, HE WILL MAKE US ALL GENERALS IN HIS ARMY.

HATE TO BREAK IT TO YA KID, BUT HE AIN'T COMIN' BACK.

HE USED YA FOR WHAT HE COULD GET AN' NOW HE'S DONE WITH YA--WITH ALL OF YA.

THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' KEEPIN' YA HERE, OKAY? SO JUST...GO. LEAVE.

GET OUT WHILE YOU STILL CAN.

THEY IGNORE ME--WHICH I GUESS I EXPECTED BUT IT'S DISAPPOINTIN', JUST THE SAME.

YOU'D THINK THAT I--A FELLA WHO'S COMMITTED MORE VIOLENT ACTS THAN...ANYBODY--WOULD HAVE SOME KINDA INSIGHT ON HOW TO STEER A CHILD AWAY FROM VIOLENCE, BUT I DON'T.

I CAN'T SAVE THESE KIDS...

8 HOURS AGO:

TIME TO ROLL, JUNIOR.

FREFON

"...ANY MORE THAN I COULD SAVE MY OWN."

FAMILY BUSINESS

CONCLUSION

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

YOU TELL *ME.*

YOU'RE *ROMULUS'S WEAPON OF CHOICE*--YOU'VE BEEN AROUND HIM MORE THAN *ANYONE*--SO...

...WHERE DO WE *FIND* HIM?

I HAVE NO IDEA.

"*CHARLES XAVIER* GOT INTO MY HEAD AND, IN *DOING* SO, TRIGGERED SOME KIND OF *PSI-BOMB.*

"WHEN IT *WENT OFF*, IT *SCRAMBLED MY MEMORIES*--I REMEMBER THINGS, BUT THEY'RE *DISJOINTED. SCRAMBLED.* I'VE BEEN TRYING TO SORT THEM OUT BUT IT'S BEEN... *DIFFICULT.*"

WHEN I FIRST SAW *YOU*, I REMEMBERED...

"THE *FACILITY*...

"...AND I REMEMBERED THAT *HE WAS THERE.*"

"THAT'S *IT*, HUH? THAT'S *ALL YOU CAN REMEMBER?*"

WHAT @#$%IN' GOOD ARE YOU TO *ME*, THEN?

OOH... ARE WE GONNA *FIGHT* NOW?

THE MEMORIES ARE *THERE*, CYBER-- I CAN *FEEL* THEM. ALL I NEED IS SOMETHING TO BRING THEM INTO *FOCUS*.

SO, BE IT EVER SO PUERILE...

...SHOW ME YOURS AND I'LL SHOW YOU MINE.

C'MON.

YP ML08

AGAIN--TO *WHERE?*

AFTER THE FACILITY, I WAS TAKEN TO A *LAB* WHERE I...HAD SOME *WORK* DONE. *ROMULUS WAS THERE.*

YOU DON'T REMEMBER *ANY* OF THAT?

WHY *SHOULD* I?

BECAUSE *YOU* WERE THERE, *TOO.*

"I WAS IN AN' OUT OF IT FOR AWHILE, *THANKS TO THE BULLETS YOU'D PUT IN MY BACK...*

"...BUT I REMEMBER GETTING TOSSED INTO A *RAIL CAR.*

"*YOU* WERE THERE...

"AND SO WAS *ROMULUS...* THOUGH I COULD BARELY SEE HIM."

"AND THERE WAS SOMEONE *ELSE* THERE, *TOO...*"

VICTOR.

Glasgow International Airport

BAAM

WHO--?

BZZT--!

WHAT THE HELL IS *THAT?*

WOLVERINE'S *X-MEN COMMUNICATOR.*

NOW WHY WOULD YOU HAVE *THAT?*

YOU *PLANNIN'* *ON SELLIN'* *ME OUT?*

THEN *SMASH* IT.

NOT *CURRENTLY...*

AND BRING THE X-MEN DOWN ON OUR HEADS? NO, THANK YOU.

IF THIS THING GOES OFF-LINE A *DISTRESS SIGNAL* IS LOGGED, ALONG WITH THE *LAST RECORDED LOCATION* OF THE DEVICE. AS LONG AS IT'S IN ONE PIECE AND RECEIVING, THE X-MEN WILL ASSUME THAT WOLVERINE IS--

BUT WHAT IF HE *DOESN'T ANSWER IT?*

FROM WHAT I'VE GATHERED, I THINK THEY'D BE MORE SURPRISED IF HE DID ANSWER IT--HE ISN'T EXACTLY THE COMMUNICATIVE TYPE.

I TOOK IT FROM HIM BECAUSE I DON'T WANT HIM TO BE ABLE TO CALL IN HIS TEAMMATES TO HELP HIM ONCE HE GETS CLEAR OF HIS... *PREDICAMENT.*

PLEASE-- *HURRY!* IF I AM CAUGHT, MY *LICENSE* WILL BE--

BECAUSE LET'S FACE IT-- WOLVERINE CAN ONLY PREACH FOR SO LONG...

"...BEFORE HE GETS TIRED OF SITTING ON HIS HANDS."

DOWN! SIT DOWN NOW OR--

OR WHAT?

OR WE WILL SHOOT!

YEAH? SO WHAT?

SHUT YOUR MOUTH AND S-SIT!

WHAT'S WRONG, KID? YOU S-SCARED OR SOMETHIN'?

I AM NOT SCARED OF ANYTHING!

YOU AN' YER FRIENDS ALREADY SHOT ME, ONCE--FILLED ME FULL O' BULLETS.

BUT HERE I AM, ALIVE AN' WELL, GOOD AS NEW.

BULLETS DON'T WORK ON ME, KID.

HE... HE IS A DEMON...

NO! HE... HE IS JUST A MAN!

HE IS NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF!

BOY...

...I'M EVERYTHING YOU SHOULD BE AFRAID OF.

SNIKT!

BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA-BU

...W-WHAT NOW?

WE SHOULD LEAVE... BEFORE HE COMES BACK.

WHO? THE BIG MAN?

UHH...

...YEAH.

"UNLIKE YOUR FATHER, I DON'T HAVE A HEALING FACTOR..."

...SO MY ADAMANTIUM HAD TO GO ON THE *OUTSIDE.*

SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA:

THIS IS WHERE IT HAPPENED.

I REMEMBER THIS PLACE...

I REMEMBER THE SMELL OF *BURNING METAL...*

"...AND OF BURNING *FLESH.*"

AAAAAHHH!

YEAH... MY FLESH.

AS FAR AS I KNOW, THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME ANYONE HAD ATTEMPTING BONDING ADAMANTIUM TO A HUMAN. THE PROCESS WAS PRIMITIVE...

"...AND *BRUTAL.*

"WISH *PHINEAS MASON* HAD BEEN AROUND THEN... WOULD'VE MADE IT A WHOLE LOT--"

"WHO?"

PHINEAS MASON--GOES BY THE NAME *TINKERER.*

HE'S THE ONE WHO OUTFITTED ME THE *SECOND* TIME AROUND...

SOMETHING *WRONG...?*

DON'T KNOW-- SUDDENLY GOT THE FEELING THAT SOMEONE WAS...

RELAX, CYBER...

"...NO ONE IS COMING FOR YOU."

TELEPHONE...?

THANK YOU FOR CALLING THE GRAYMALKIN--

VOICE CONFIRMATION: WOLVERINE.

VOICE CONFIRMED. CONNECTING.

HELLO, LOGAN. TO WHAT DO I OWE THE--

NEED A FAVOR, HANK...

"...NEED YA TO TELL ME *WHERE I AM.*"

TRANSMITTING COORDINATES...

ANY OF THIS JOGGING YOUR MEMORY?

NO...

KRAKK!

YOU'RE LYING!

YOU'RE *PARANOID.*

MAYBE...

"...BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN SOMEONE ISN'T OUT TO GET ME."

ML-JS

〈FATHER, WHY ARE WE--?〉*

*TRANSLATED FROM FARSI.

〈YOU *QUESTION* ME, AREF?〉

〈I *APOLOGIZE*, FATHER. I'M SIMPLY TRYING TO UNDERSTAND WHY YOU ARE BEING SO *ACCOMODATING* TO THAT...*AMERICAN.*〉

〈SUFFICE IT TO SAY I'M REPAYING AN *OLD DEBT.*〉

〈AGAIN, *MY APOLOGIES*, BUT COULD WE NOT "REPAY" HIM BY...SAY, *CUTTING HIS THROAT AND DISPOSING OF THE BODY OVER THE OCEAN?*〉

〈I DON'T KNOW...WHY DON'T WE ASK *HIM?*〉

〈I THINK I PREFER *YOUR* WAY, EBI...〉

...AND I'M *CANADIAN*, KID--NOT *AMERICAN.*

OH! WELL... (GULP!)...

"...THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY YOU NEED TO GO TO *CANADA*, THEN!"

YOU WERE QUITE A *DISAPPOINTMENT* TO ROMULUS--DID YOU *KNOW* THAT?

YEARS LATER, WHEN YOU *BETRAYED* HIM, OBVIOUSLY--BUT EVEN FROM THE BEGINNING, YOU WERE... *LESS* THAN WHAT HE'D HOPED FOR.

SO YOU *DO* REMEMBER...

I'M, UH... I'M *DONE*, M-MISTER...CAN I GO, NOW?

IN TIME, WATCHMAKER. FIRST, SHOW ME WHAT HAS BECOME OF OUR... *PATIENT*.

WELL, AH, I THINK THE IRONWORKERS WHO DID THE *MAJORITY* OF THE WORK WOULD BE MORE CAPABLE OF--

THE IRONWORKERS ARE GONE.

OH. WELL, ALL RIGHT, THEN...

THE CLAWS.

SHOW ME THE CLAWS.

ALWAYS WONDERED *WHY* I HAD THESE...

THEY'RE A *SYMBOL.*

A SYMBOL OF *WHAT?*

THE MEANING WOULD BE LOST UPON YOU.

YOU'RE A *PROTOTYPE,* CYBER--A PROTOTYPE FOR A WEAPON THAT IS NO LONGER VIABLE. AS THE WORLD CHANGES, SO MUST THE WEAPONS THAT WE WILL USE TO DESTROY IT.

"WE"--? WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT?

WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

HIM, CYBER... YOU SAID IT YOURSELF--IT'S *ALWAYS* HIM.

TELL ME WHERE ROMULUS IS!

HE'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.

YOU?!

YOU THINK *YOU'RE* GONNA BE THE ONE TO TAKE THE THRONE, YOU LITTLE SON OF A--!

BE CAREFUL OF WHAT YOU SAY *NEXT*, CYBER...

...THEY MAY JUST BE YOUR LAST WORDS.

THOSE WHO ARE *WEAK*...

...BREAK.

LOOKING FOR THESE?

YOU'VE MADE MANY COMPARISONS BETWEEN MYSELF AND MY...*FATHER* BUT WHAT YOU *SHOULD'VE* NOTED ARE THE *DIFFERENCES.*

UNLIKE HIM, I CAN MANIPULATE THE FEELINGS OF OTHERS--I CAN LULL THEM INTO A FALSE STATE OF *CALM*, I CAN ELEVATE THEIR FEELINGS OF *JOY*...*OR I CAN FEED THEIR SENSE OF PANIC AND PARANOIA.*

YOU... SET ME UP...

NOT JUST ME...

IF YOU ***BETRAY*** ME, ***CYBER WON'T QUESTION IT.*** AFTER THAT, IT SHOULD BE ***EASY*** FOR YA TO GAIN HIS CONFIDENCE.

TAKE THIS--IT'LL LET ME KEEP TRACK O' YER LOCATION. ONCE HE'S TOLD YA EVERYTHING HE KNOWS...

...WE'LL PUT HIM DOWN.

WOLVERINE'S PLAN WAS GOOD... BUT I NOW HAVE A ***BETTER*** ONE.

I DON'T REMEMBER EVERY-THING, BUT I REMEMBER ***ENOUGH. I REMEMBER WHAT I AM***...AND WHAT I'M ***DESTINED TO BECOME.***

THIS WORLD IS MINE FOR THE TAKING, CYBER...

"...AND I DO NOT PLAN TO SHARE IT."

LEAVE IT.

OLD NUMBER 180 BOURBON WHISKEY

SOMETIMES, THE ONLY CURE IS TO GET DRUNK. IT DOESN'T LAST...

...BUT NOTHIN' EVER DOES.

I DON'T KNOW *WHAT DAKEN'S PLANNIN' ON DOIN'*, OR WHERE OR HOW I'M EVER GONNA *FIND* HIM AGAIN...

...BUT THERE'S AN *OLD SAYIN'* THAT I'VE FOUND IS MORE TRUE THAN *MOST:*

BAD PENNIES ALWAYS TURN UP.

LET'S TALK ABOUT THAT *KID* OF YOURS.

NEXT: WEAPON XI